DIGEST

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Simon

HB No. 484

Abstract: Requires the office of motor vehicles to create a flag code to be placed on the registration of a motor vehicle which indicates that the driver is deaf or hard of hearing.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the office of motor vehicles to issue an identification sticker or decal to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing at no cost. The sticker or decal can be placed on the vehicle's windshield or license plate, and the same sticker or decal can be imprinted on the back of the driver's license under the lamination.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the person applying for the sticker or decal must produce a statement attested by a medical physician, audiologist, or speech pathologist indicating a hearing loss.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and requires the office of motor vehicles to create a flag code to be placed on the registration of a motor vehicle which indicates that the driver is deaf or hard of hearing. Authorizes placement of the flag code on the registration of a motor vehicle when an applicant initially applies for or renews their registration. Specifies that the flag will be no additional cost to the driver if the driver produces a statement attested by a medical physician, audiologist, or speech pathologist indicating a hearing loss. Authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules to implement <u>proposed law</u>.

(Amends R.S. 32:403.3)